# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*
## *Office of the Governor*

***Whereas***, Direct support workers, direct care workers, personal assistants, personal attendants, in-home support workers, and paraprofessionals, are the primary providers of publicly-funded, long-term support and services for more than 4,000 individuals with disabilities in day, residential, and family support programs in South Dakota; and,

***Whereas***, A direct support professional assists an individual with disabilities with the most intimate needs on a daily basis, and provides a broad range of support in order to live meaningful, productive lives; and,

***Whereas***, A direct support professional provides essential support to keep an individual with disabilities connected to their family and the community, and is key to assisting them to live successfully in their own community; and,

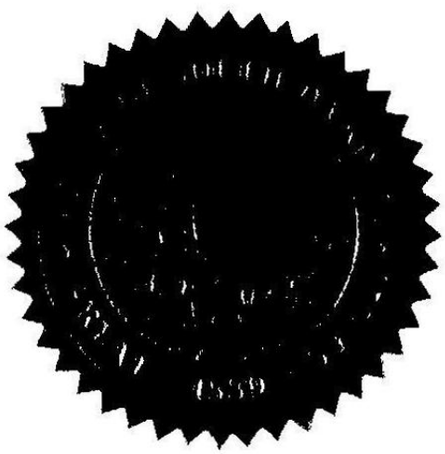
***Whereas***, There are over 3,700 direct support professionals working in the family support program, the 19 Community Support Provider agencies, the South Dakota Developmental Center, and the Children's Care Hospital and School in South Dakota; and,

***Whereas***, It is fitting and proper as Governor to honor the direct support professional workforce for the tremendous difference they make each day in the lives of thousands of South Dakotans with disabilities:

***Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard***, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 9-15, 2012, as

## *DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK*

in South Dakota, and I call upon the people of this state to observe this week with appropriate programs, activities, and ceremonies in recognition of Direct Support Professionals in their community.



***In Witness Whereof***, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-third Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twelve.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

**Attest:**

Jason Gant

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State